

## BUILD SKILLS

### *from Nature • from Self-Reliance • Concord Hymn • The Snowstorm*

#### LITERARY ANALYSIS

**Transcendentalism** was an intellectual movement founded by Emerson. These are the cornerstones of Transcendentalist beliefs:

- Human senses are limited. Human senses convey knowledge of the physical world, but deeper truths can be grasped only through intuition.
- The observation of nature illuminates the nature of human beings.
- God, nature, and humanity are united in a shared universal soul, or Over-Soul.

These beliefs pervade all of Emerson's work.

#### READING STRATEGY

When you read a work that presents an argument, do not simply accept the ideas—challenge them. To **challenge a text**, question the author's assertions and reasoning. Compare the evidence the author offers with your personal experience or other reading. Then, decide whether you agree. Use this chart to record your thoughts about the selections.

<b>Emerson's Statement</b>

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<b>Evidence from the Text</b>

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<b>Your Experiences</b>

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<b>Your Reaction</b>